# Wildlife Interpretations

#### General

Soils directly affect the kind and amount of vegetation that is available to wildlife as food and cover. They also affect the development of water impoundments. The kind and abundance of wildlife that populate an area depend largely on the amount and distribution of food, cover, water, and living space. If any one of these elements is missing, inadequate, or inaccessible, wildlife will be scarce or will not inhabit the area. If the soils have the potential, wildlife habitat can be created or improved by planting appropriate vegetation, properly managing the existing plant cover, and fostering the natural establishment of desirable plants.

Soils are rated according to their potential for providing habitat for various kinds of wildlife. This information can be used in planning parks, wildlife refuges, nature study areas, and other developments for wildlife. It can also be used in selecting soils that are suitable for establishing, improving, or maintaining specific elements of wildlife habitat.

## Suitability Ratings

**GOOD** - means that the element of wildlife habitat or the kind of habitat is easily created, improved, or maintained. Few or no limitations affect management, and satisfactory results can be expected if the soil is used for the designated purpose.

**FAIR** - means that the element of wildlife habitat or kind of habitat can be created, improved, or maintained in most places. Moderately intensive management is required for satisfactory results.

**POOR** - means that limitations are severe for the designated element or kind of wildlife habitat. Habitat can be created, improved, or maintained in most places, but management is difficult and requires intensive effort.

### Description of Wildlife Habitat Elements

Grain and seed crops are seed-producing annuals used by wildlife. Examples are corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, millet, buckwheat, and sunflowers.

Grasses and legumes are domestic perennial grasses and herbaceous legumes that are planted for wildlife food and cover. Examples are fescue, bluegrass, brome grass, timothy, orchard grass, clover, alfalfa, trefoil, reed canary grass, and crown vetch.

Wild herbaceous plants are native and naturally established herbaceous grasses, forbs, and weeds, that provide food and cover for wildlife. Examples are bluestem, indiangrass, blueberry, goldenrod, lambsquarters, dandelions, blackberry, ragweed, wheatgrass, fescue, and nightshade.

Hardwood trees and the associated woody understory provide cover for wildlife and produce nuts or other fruit, buds, catkins, twigs, bark, or foliage that wildlife eat. Examples of native plants are oak, poplar, cherry, apple, birch, beech, maple, hickory, hazelnut, black walnut, and viburnum. Examples of fruit-bearing shrubs that are

commercially available and suitable for planting on soils rated good are hawthorn, honeysuckle, sumac, silky dogwood, highbush cranberry, autumn olive, and crabapple.

Coniferous plants are cone-bearing trees, shrubs, or ground cover that furnish habitat or supply food in the form of browse, seed, or fruit-like cones. Examples are pine, spruce, hemlock, fir, yew, cedar, larch, and juniper.

Wetland plants are annual and perennial wild herbaceous plants that grow on moist or wet sites, exclusive of submerged or floating aquatics. They produce food or cover for wildlife that use wetland as habitat. Examples of wetland plants are smartweed, wild millet, rushes, sedges, reeds, wildrice, arrowhead, water plantain, pickerelweed, and cattail.

Shallow water are bodies of surface water that have an average depth of less that 5 feet and are useful as habitat for wildlife. They can be naturally wet areas, or they can be created by dams or levees, or by water-control devices in marshes or streams. Examples are muskrat marshes, waterfowl feeding areas, wildlife watering developments, beaver ponds, and other wildlife ponds.

### Kinds of Wildlife Habitat

Open land habitat consists of croplands, pastures, meadows, and areas that are overgrown with grasses, herbs, shrubs, and vines. These areas produce grain and seed crops, grasses and legumes, and wild herbaceous plants. The kind of wildlife attracted to these areas include bobwhite quail, pheasant, meadowlark, field sparrow, killdeer, cottontail rabbit, red fox, and woodchuck.

Woodland habitat consists of hardwood or conifers, or a mixture of these and associated grasses, legumes and wild herbaceous plants. Examples of wildlife attracted to this habitat are wild turkey, woodcock, thrushes, woodpeckers, owl, tree squirrels, gray fox, porcupine, raccoon, and deer.

Wetland habitat consists of water-tolerant plants in open, marshy or swampy, shallow water areas. Examples of wildlife attracted to this habitat are ducks, geese, herons, bitterns, rails, kingfishers, muskrat, otter, mink, and beaver.

This subsection includes:

• (a) Wildlife Management Ratings (one or two tables)

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and soil name	ame use as food and cover) legum			Domestic grasses and legumes (for use as food and cover)		ous	Upland shrubs and v	ines	Upland deciduous trees	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value 	Rating class and limiting features	Value
01: Wakeland	  Limited  ~flooding   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.90	  Limited  ~flooding   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.90	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.44	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.44	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.59
02: Klum	  Limited  ~flooding   (limited)	      0.90	  Limited  ~flooding   (limited)	      0.90	  Not limited   	       	  Not limited   	       	  Slightly limited  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	      0.01
08: Huntsville	  Moderately limited  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	      0.60	  Moderately limited  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	      0.60	  Not limited 	       	  Not limited 	       	  Not limited 	       
15B: Hoopeston	   Moderately limited   ~wetness   (moderately limited)   ~droughty   (slightly limited)	0.44	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	1	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	    0.44   	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	    0.44   	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	    0.59   
17C: Neeper	  Moderately limited  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)	      0.50	  Moderately limited  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)	      0.50	  Not limited 	       	  Not limited 	       	  Not limited 	       
18B: Jasper	    Not limited 		    Not limited 		    Not limited 	     	    Not limited 	     	    Not limited 	     

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and soil name		Grain and seed crops (for use as food and cover)		Domestic grasses and   legumes (for use as food   and cover)		ous	Upland shrubs and v	ines	Upland deciduous trees	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value 	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value
19A: Plainfield	  Very limited  ~droughty   (very limited)  ~too sandy   (moderately limited)	1.00	  Moderately limited  ~too sandy  (moderately limited)  ~droughty  (slightly limited)	0.50	  Moderately limited  ~too sandy  (moderately limited)  ~droughty  (slightly limited)	0.50	(moderately limited)	0.50	  Slightly limited  ~droughty   (slightly limited)	0.00
19C: Plainfield	-droughty (very limited)	  0.50 	   Moderately limited   ~too sandy   (moderately limited)   ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)   ~droughty   (slightly limited)	0.50	  Moderately limited  ~too sandy   (moderately limited)  ~droughty   (slightly limited)		  Moderately limited  ~too sandy   (moderately limited)  ~droughty   (slightly limited)	0.50	  Slightly limited  ~droughty   (slightly limited) 	0.00
20: Colo	   Moderately limited   ~flooding   (moderately limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)   ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.60	   Moderately limited   ~flooding   (moderately limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)   ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.60    0.44 	   Moderately limited   ~wetness   (moderately limited)   ~flooding (prolonged)   (slightly limited)   ~too clayey   (slightly limited)		(moderately limited)  ~flooding (prolonged)   (slightly limited)	0.44	   Moderately limited   ~wetness   (moderately limited)   ~flooding (prolonged)   (slightly limited)	
24: Moniteau	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.13	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	    1.00    0.13	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	    1.00   	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	1.00

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and soil name	Grain and seed crops (for   use as food and cover)			Domestic grasses and legumes (for use as food and cover)		Upland wild herbaceous   plants		ines	Upland deciduous trees	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value
26C2: Weller	    Moderately limited  ~moderate erodibility	      0.50	    Moderately limited  ~moderate erodibility	      0.50	    Not limited 		    Not limited 	   	    Slightly limited  ~wetness	0.29
	(moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	  0.39 	(moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	  0.39 				   	(slightly limited)   	
27: Zook	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.99	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)		  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.99	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.99	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00
29F: Lindley	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~slope   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	0.80	Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~slope   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	0.80	  Not limited       		  Not limited     		  Not limited     	
31C2: Armstrong	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.80	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.80	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	      0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	    0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	0.59

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and soil name			Domestic grasses and   legumes (for use as food   and cover)		Upland wild herbace plants	Upland wild herbaceous   plants		ines	Upland deciduous trees	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
31E2: Armstrong	Limited  -high erodibility   (limited)  -wetness   (moderately limited)  -percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.39	Limited  -high erodibility   (limited)  -wetness   (moderately limited)  -percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.44	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	    0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	    0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	    0.59     
32F2: Gara	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~slope   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	0.80	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~slope   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	0.80	  Not limited     		  Not limited   	             	  Not limited     	
33: Edina	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)  ~wetness   (limited)	  1.00    0.81	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)  ~wetness   (limited)	  1.00    0.81	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)	    0.81   	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)	    0.81   	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00
35C2: Gorin	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.80	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.80	  Not limited       	           	  Not limited         	           	  Slightly limited  ~wetness   (slightly limited) 	    0.29     

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and soil name	  Grain and seed crops   use as food and cove		Domestic grasses at legumes (for use as and cover)		Upland wild herbaced plants	ous	Upland shrubs and v	ines	Upland deciduous tr	ees
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
37B: Marion	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)	  0.60    0.50	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)	  0.60    0.50	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	    0.60     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	    0.60     	  Limited  -wetness   (limited) 	    0.99     
39C2: Keswick	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.39	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.80	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	       0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	       0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	      0.59     
39E2: Keswick	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.39	  Limited  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.80	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	    0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	    0.44     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)   	    0.59       
41C2: Leonard	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.81	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~high erodibility   (limited)  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.81	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.81	(limited)	0.81	  very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and soil name				Domestic grasses and legumes (for use as food and cover)			Upland shrubs and v	ines	Upland deciduous trees	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
43B: Adco	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)	0.50	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)	0.53	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	    0.53     	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	0.53	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited) 	0.79
44: Belinda	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)	    1.00	  Very limited  ~percs slowly   (very limited)	1.00	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)	0.81	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)	    0.81 	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00
45F: Bucklick	<pre>  ~wetness   (limited)       Limited   ~high erodibility   (limited)   ~slope   (limited)</pre>	0.81	<pre>  ~wetness   (limited)       Limited   ~high erodibility   (limited)   ~slope   (limited)</pre>	0.81	      Not limited   		    Not limited   		    Not limited   	
47C2: Winfield	  Moderately limited  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)		  Moderately limited  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)	      0.50	  Not limited 	       	  Not limited 	       	  Slightly limited  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	0.22
48C: Alvin	   Moderately limited   ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited)   ~droughty   (slightly limited)		  Moderately limited  ~moderate erodibility   (moderately limited) 	0.50	  Not limited       		  Not limited     	           	  Not limited   	

#### Wildlife Habitat

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Map symbol and soil name	  Grain and seed crops   use as food and cov 				Upland wild herbace plants	land wild herbaceous plants		ines	Upland deciduous trees	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
49: Vesser	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	    1.00    0.60	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	    1.00    0.60	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00
50: Pits	  Not rated 	     	  Not rated 	       	  Not rated 		  Not rated 		  Not rated 	
51: Gilford	   Very limited   ~wetness   (very limited)   ~ponded (wetness)   (very limited)   ~flooding   (moderately limited)	        1.00    1.00    0.60	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~ponded (wetness)   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	      1.00    1.00    0.60	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~seasonally ponded   (limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~seasonally ponded   (limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~seasonally ponded   (limited)	1.00
53: Vesser	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (limited)	  1.00    0.90	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (limited)	  1.00    0.90	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)	1.00
54: Zook	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~flooding   (limited)	    0.99    0.90	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~flooding   (limited)	    0.99    0.90	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.99	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.99	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	1.00

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and	  Grain and seed crops		Domestic grasses a		Upland wild herbace	ous	Upland shrubs and v	ines	   Upland deciduous tr	rees
soil name	use as food and cov	er)	legumes (for use as   and cover)	plants   	 			 		
	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value   
	  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	  0.39 	  ~percs slowly   (moderately limited)	0.39	     			     		
60: Excello	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.81	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.81	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	0.81	  Limited  ~wetness   (limited)  ~too clayey   (slightly limited)	  0.81    0.05 	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	1.00
66: Nodaway	  Moderately limited  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	    0.60 	  Moderately limited  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	    0.60	  Not limited 	     	  Not limited   	     	  Slightly limited  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	0.01
71: Beaucoup	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.60    0.13	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~percs slowly   (slightly limited)	  1.00    0.60    0.13	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	1.00	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	    1.00     	  Very limited  ~wetness   (very limited) 	1.00
74: Orion	   Moderately limited   ~flooding   (moderately limited)   ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.44	  Moderately limited  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.60	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	0.44	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	    0.44   	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	0.59
82: Lawson	  Moderately limited  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	    0.60	  Moderately limited  ~flooding   (moderately limited)	    0.60	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.44	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	    0.44 	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	    0.59

#### Wildlife Habitat

Map symbol and soil name			Domestic grasses and legumes (for use as food and cover)		Upland wild herbaceous plants		Upland shrubs and v	ines	Upland deciduous trees	
	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value   	Rating class and limiting features	Value	Rating class and limiting features	Value
	  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.44	  ~wetness   (moderately limited)	0.44		     				
90: Perks	  Very limited  ~droughty   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~too sandy   (moderately limited)	0.50	  Limited  ~droughty   (very limited)  ~flooding   (moderately limited)  ~too sandy   (moderately limited)	  0.60    0.50	  Limited  ~droughty   (very limited)  ~too sandy   (moderately limited)	İ	  Limited  ~droughty   (very limited)  ~too sandy   (moderately limited)	0.50	  Limited  ~droughty   (very limited) 	0.99
91: Wiota	  Not limited		  Not limited		  Not limited	İ	  Not limited		  Not limited	
99: Fatima	  Limited  ~flooding   (limited)  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	0.90	  Limited  ~flooding   (limited)  ~wetness   (slightly limited)	    0.90    0.13	  Slightly limited  ~wetness   (slightly limited) 	      0.13   	  Slightly limited  ~wetness   (slightly limited) 	0.13	  Moderately limited  ~wetness   (moderately limited) 	0.37
M-W: Water	    Not rated 	     	    Not rated 	     	  Not rated 	     	  Not rated 		    Not rated 	
W: Water	    Not rated   		    Not rated   	         	      Not rated   	         	      Not rated   		    Not rated 	